

18<sup>th</sup> March 2019

Sarah Jane Ristevski

Occupation:

Education:

Your Honour,

My name is Sarah Jane Ristevski, and I have had the pleasure of knowing my dad Borce Ristevski my whole life. Growing up as a family my mum, dad and I were completely inseparable. We would spend all of our spare time together and family was everything to us. The love we had for each other was unexplainable, and everyone in our lives saw it. Although I am aware of the charge against my dad, I have visited him every week and talked to him on the phone at least twice a day since his arrest in December 2017.

I have so many amazing memories with my dad that I will forever cherish, especially those memories of my parents together. The love they had for each other and the marriage that they shared is something I hope to one-day experience myself. If I could use a few words to describe my dad's personality they would be loving, caring, sympathetic, protective and charismatic. I was lucky enough to have really close relationships with both my mum and dad. When I was really young dad would get me up every morning and make sure I was ready for school. He did my hair, ironed my uniform and packed my lunch before driving me to and from school every day. He drove me to all of my extra-curricular activities and stayed to watch all of my sport activities even though I wasn't very good.

Growing up I was so extremely lucky to have two loving parents who did everything they could for each other. Dad would always been helping mum out. From helping her stream and put out stock at her retail store to being the advice giver and shoulder to cry on when she felt like her family wasn't there for her. He would always put my mum and I first before anyone else, as did my mum with him and I. It pains me inside to hear all of these untrue claims about my parents marriage and the love they had for each other from people who were not apart of their lives, and I can't stress enough how much this has effected my dad.

My dad has not had any prior convictions or issues with the law, and I can confidently say that in my 23 years I have never witnessed any form of violence between my mum and dad.

Within our family and even the wider community, my father was always someone that people could look up to and respect. From people at the local footy and cricket club to co-workers, my father was extremely well liked and respected. He got along with everyone and if anybody ever needed advice or help, he was always there. Both of my parents were always involved in giving back to charity, and a big thing that my dad was specifically apart of was contributing a percentage of the profits from the clothing stores takings to charity. Growing up my dad played both footy and cricket at our local club. He was really good at cricket before he injured his knee, and I believe he still holds the highest batting average in the Essendon district. Whether it was dad himself playing or his team playing when dad was coaching footy, mum would always be there on the sidelines supporting him. That's how they were together, no matter what they were doing, whether it was work related or hobby related they supported each other completely no matter what.

Since the act of violence my dad has experienced job loss, a loss of respect within the community and the loss of close long-term friendships. The extensive media coverage has been not only hard on him, but has been significantly hard on me. For months my dad would try his best to shield me from the waiting media outside our home, but unfortunately he can't shield me anymore. The circumstances have left me without both of my parents, and I know there is nothing that I can do to change that but all I can try to do is communicate the truth of how good of a dad and husband he was to my mum and I.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'SJ Ristevski', with a stylized, cursive script.

Sarah Jane Ristevski

Your Honour Supreme Court Judge

21 March 2019

My name is Anica Naumovski

My occupation is a medical scientist

I have known Boris and Karen for 32 years. Boris is my god father who married me in our Macedonian church. Boris has also christened both my children. We have had a wonderful and strong relationship with Boris, Karen and Sarah over the years with them attending every birthday of my children. We regularly saw each other, dinners, parties, bbqs, we have been away with each other and were always there for each other. Basically, every family social event we spent together as we enjoyed each other's company, Boris and Karen were a great friends and great support to us.

Boris was always shown to be a very caring person, he loves to have a joke and I have always thought of Boris as being very composed and a truly family man. His family always came first. My fondest memory of Boris, Karen and Sarah were always that they were always together, they laughed and enjoyed each other's company. They were a very close family.

My husband John Naumovski has known and been very close to Boris and his family for 45 years, they share a great family bond and was honoured that Boris and Karen offered to be our god parents.

I am extremely devastated how Karen's life has ended she was basically a sister to me. Karen and I shared many things. Boris always showed a keen interest towards my family, my children Rebecca and Richard look upto him as not only their god father but a friend as Boris has the ability to show warmth and compassion to them.

In all those years I never saw or felt any reason to be concerned about Boris and Karen's relationship, nor had Karen ever confided in me that there was any issue in their relationship. They were very close, they worked together, lived together and always went out together. I saw both Boris and Karen 3 weekends in a row before Karen went missing. Life was the same as it always was with them. I did not see any change with them that stood out for me.

We have been a strong support to both Sarah and Boris as we have a long and strong family bond with them.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Anica Naumovski', written in a cursive style.

Anica Naumovski

20 March 2019

The Honourable Justice Christopher Beale  
Supreme Court of Victoria

Your Honour,

**Re: Character reference – Borce Ristevski**

My name is Rebecca Ann Naumovski of [REDACTED] I hold a Bachelor of Business from Victoria University.

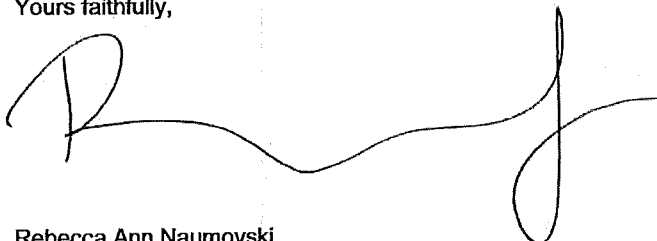
I have known Borce Ristevski of 23 Oakley Drive, Avondale Heights Vic 3034, my entire life. Borce is my uncle and my godfather. Throughout my life I have always had constant contact with Borce, speaking at least once a month. Since the disappearance of my aunty, Karen Ristevski until he was incarcerated we were in contact at least twice a week.

I'm aware that Borce has pleaded guilty to the charge of manslaughter of his wife and my aunty, Ms Karen Ristevski. I have spoken to Borce about these charges prior to him pleading guilty and we had discussed how distressed he was about the whole situation and the impact it has had on his loved ones.

As my godparents, Karen and Borce were always people that I would rely on for support if I was ever going through a difficult time. There have been a number of times where Borce has given me professional and personal advice and provided me with guidance when I required it. He has always been very approachable and ready to listen. Throughout my life, Borce has always continuously supported me, with an example of this being when he offered me an administration/receptionist position at their company to gain work experience to assist me with gaining a graduate position in accounting. Whilst working with Karen and Borce I was able to see them work together on a daily basis and the support, love and respect they showed each other was always something I admired. He has always been a well-respected member of our broader family circle.

I respectfully ask that His Honour take this reference into account when considering Borce's sentence.

Yours faithfully,



21/03/19

Rebecca Ann Naumovski

21 March 2019

The Honourable Justice Christopher Beale  
Supreme Court of Victoria

Your Honour,

**Re: Character reference – Borce Ristevski**

My name is Joshua Peter Attard of [REDACTED] I hold a Bachelor of Laws / Bachelor of International Relations from La Trobe University.

I have known Borce Ristevski of 23 Oakley Drive, Avondale Heights Vic 3034, business owner, for eight years. I first met Mr Ristevski in 2011 as a relative of my then partner, now wife, Ms Rebecca Ann Naumovski of [REDACTED] I would typically have contact with Mr Ristevski approximately once a month, prior to him being incarcerated.

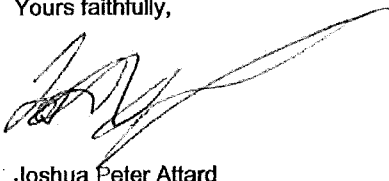
I understand that Mr Ristevski has pleaded guilty to a charge of manslaughter in respect of his wife, Ms Karen Ristevski. I have discussed these charges with Mr Ristevski in detail on multiple occasions since the time of Ms Ristevski's disappearance in June 2016 – partly due to my familiarity with the legal system, but also due to the close family relationship we have established over a number of years.

In the time that I have known Mr Ristevski, I can say that he has always been someone of good character. He was very welcoming to me when I was first introduced to the family, and is someone who is always very warm and funny around others. He always makes everyone around him laugh, and this is a really infectious quality. It was also clear to me early in my time knowing Mr Ristevski that he was someone who was looked up to by his immediate family of Karen and Sarah, as well as the broader family group.

Mr Ristevski has always been very loving towards his family, and he and Ms Ristevski always appeared to have a great relationship. He and Karen would always be joking with one another, which I found very endearing, and together they both dedicated themselves to being the best parents they could be for Sarah. Mr Ristevski continues to have a great relationship with his daughter Sarah, and will always do his best to be the most supportive and loving father that he can be for her.

I respectfully request that His Honour takes the above into consideration when making a determination as to Mr Ristevski's sentence.

Yours faithfully,



Joshua Peter Attard

Monday 25th May 2019

Dear Your Honour - Justice Beale

I have been Sarah's best friend since high school and thus had had a really good relationship with both Karen and Borce also. I was in contact with both her parents quite regularly - weekly if not more often. As I used to live near their Watgardens store id always swing by and have a good chat with them both as Borce was often there helping Karen out when Sarah and the other staff were not working.

I am aware of the charges imposed upon Borce and we have spoken about the offences in detail during our visits at the MRC

I've known the family for about 9 years now, they were such a great couple, I even remember just months before the this all happened Karen would text me a photo of Borce sunburnt and make a joke about him. They were like parents to me and I've always seen them as my second parents, I even remember Karen and Borce telling me that "my parents will always accept me" during a an argument that my parents and I had and that really touched me.

To my knowledge I can say with confidence that neither of the parents had any drug or alcohol issues. I even remember going to the movies and myself downing 2 martinis whereas the couple who sat in front of us just had popcorn and their soft drink.

I've forgotten the campaigns themselves but the family have participated in numerous foundations in acts of charity but I do recall seeing photos on social media.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Kevin Tang', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending from the end of the signature.

Kevin Tang

Accounting Student